found it convenient to blame the Jews for the defeat of Germany and for the economic distress of the country. As at the time of the "Black Death" the Jews had been accused of poisoning the wells and causing the plague, so now they were of having brought about the downfall of the Monarchy and the defeat of Germany.

It was useless for the Jews to try and prove with the most cogent arguments that the defeat and distress of Germany were due to causes over which they had no control. Masses in despair do not listen to reason, but follow anyone who works on their feelings, directs their discontent against some "culprit", and promises them salvation from their distress. The Nazis have proved past masters in such propaganda and have rapidly acquired a large following, especially among the younger generation. When they came into power, in March 1933, their rage was directed against all parties which had tried to implement the Versailles Treaty and work for a future international understanding, but chiefly against Jews who had identified themselves with such parties. For the first time since the Emancipation a systematic campaign was undertaken against the Jews at the initiative and with the approval of the Government. Decrees were passed whereby officials, professors, lawyers, doctors, etc., who were either Jews or of Jewish descent,

were deprived of their positions. Similarly, at the instigation of the Government, they were excluded from the boards of scientific institutes and of economic and professional associations. Sports clubs excluded their Jewish members, and no longer permitted Jews to represent Germany in international events, even where they had competed successfully on former occasions. This was a new experience in the modern history of the Jews. In certain countries the governments had been slow in emancipating them, but there had always been an upward trend towards an equality of rights, and a step in that direction had never before been reversed. In Germany, however, the Government suddenly